

is no stranger to shattering glass ceilings and paving the way for the next generation of cleric leaders.

Under her guiding principle of unity, hope, and grace, Memorial Baptist Church has proven vital to the strength and resiliency of Harlem, and we are forever indebted.

With Pastor Gardner at the helm, I trust that this work is only the beginning, and the Memorial Baptist Church will continue their mission of uplifting our community's most vulnerable and ingraining the spirit of strength into the fabric of our neighborhood.

RECOGNIZING ALBERT EDWARD PELHAM

(Ms. SHERRILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Albert Edward Pelham, a beloved community leader and student advocate from my town, Montclair, New Jersey.

Al was known for bringing people together. His work aided and inspired generations of Montclairians, and he leaves behind a beautiful legacy.

Al was raised in Montclair and graduated from Montclair High School. He served our country in the U.S. Army before returning to New Jersey and graduating from Bloomfield College.

From his leadership in the Montclair NAACP, the Montclair Neighborhood Development Corporation, Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, Montclair African-American Heritage Foundation, and more, he dedicated himself to making his community a better and fairer place.

One of Al's many achievements was the creation of Project Oasis, which offers year-round educational and recreational opportunities for students. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Al adapted the program and organized a remote learning space so that all students had access to a computer to attend their virtual classes.

He also created a program for students who were suspended to provide them with academic training and counseling as an alternative to staying at home.

Al worked to ensure that all students, regardless of their background, had opportunities to excel.

Al fought tirelessly for racial justice and inclusivity, guiding both the Montclair NAACP and the Montclair African-American Heritage Foundation through especially difficult times in our country. In 2019, he was recognized for these efforts with the Essex County Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award.

Al's dedication to his community was matched by his deep commitment to his family. Al took any opportunity he could to be with his wife, Audrey; his children, Dwayne and Rhonda; his grandchildren, Charles and Cameron; his sisters; and extended family.

On August 19, 2021, Al passed away after a battle with cancer. His selfless

commitment to making Montclair a better place will not soon be forgotten. I was honored to have known Al and to have called him my friend. The counsel he gave me and so many others over the years will continue to impact us and the entire Montclair community for generations to come.

WE CANNOT ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL TO UNDERMINE DEMOCRACY

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to be able to further defend and add to my statement regarding H. Res. 730 recommending that the House of Representatives find Stephen K. Bannon in contempt of Congress.

It is well known that even from his own words and published reports, these are the words that Mr. Bannon told his listeners:

"All hell is going to break loose tomorrow."

"It is not going to happen like you think it is going to happen. Okay. It is going to be quite extraordinarily different. All I can say is, strap in. . . . You have made this happen, and tomorrow, it is game day. So strap in. Let's get ready."

"So many people through my life said, man, if I was in the Revolution, I would be with Washington at Trenton. Well, this is your time in history."

There is no constitutional provision that would deny the January 6th Select Committee the right to receive information from Mr. Bannon after he has been subpoenaed for information regarding the insurrection, the riot, the attack on January 6.

The idea of executive privilege is exerted by the existing President, limited on a President of the United States no longer in office. In fact, Mr. Bannon has been gone from the White House since 2017. He has no legitimate basis.

Based on three equal branches of government, we cannot allow an individual to undermine democracy. This is a democratic republic, and I expect that the referral to the United States Department of Justice will be handled.

INVESTMENTS TO BUILD BACK BETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOWMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to talk about the importance of this historic moment indeed, this historic moment of where we will be investing—investing in our children, investing in our planet, investing in our future. We are talking about the Build Back Better agenda.

I want to begin by talking about my district, which is made up of beautifully diverse rural communities. My district is the size of Pennsylvania, but my communities in this district are rich in culture and rich in love. You know what? They have also been historically left behind with little investments made to improve their lives and to allow them to thrive.

New Mexican values are rooted in caring for each other. We know that we invest in what we care about. We know we invest in what we believe in. Well, we must invest in addressing the climate crisis because, in my district, we know that *agua es vida*, water is life. Our farmers and ranchers are depending on us to act and preserve their water resources.

Communities along our rivers, along our acequias, need us to pass a Build Back Better plan that tackles the crisis head-on so that we can preserve the water flowing from our mountains and cascading along our streams for decades to come—to feed our ranchers, to feed our farmers, and to quench our thirst.

In these same communities, people often come back home to care for their loved ones, their parents and grandparents. I have heard their stories. We asked them: Why did you come back? It is because there was nobody else available to care for my grandmother. There was nobody else to care for my tia. And we know that that care is a full-time job on its own.

What does it take to go to work in rural America? It is more than just roads and bridges. It is comprehensive paid family and medical care. It is investments in long-term care and affordable childcare.

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In my State, 53 percent of people live in a childcare desert. Seventy-one percent of rural families live in areas without enough licensed childcare providers. We can change that.

The Build Back Better plan must invest in our rural communities. We are talking about empowering rural regions, including our Tribal nations, with the resources to grow their economies, expanding access to affordable healthcare, lowering prescription drug prices, and making housing affordable. We can do this for our communities now. We can make this happen. We made progress with the American Rescue Plan, but we cannot stop there. We must build back better.

It is not good enough to go back to where we were, because we know that where we were wasn't good enough. So